

Remarks

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application and the same are rejected. Claims 1-20 remain in the application and are presented for review and further consideration by the Examiner.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable over McCurdy et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0035697. (Examiner's Action, page 2, ¶ 3).

Applicants respectfully disagree.

McCurdy discloses a system and method for distributing and viewing electronic documents. A reader 78 receives a magazine and records usage data relative to the magazine. McCurdy does not disclose the reader 78 or any other device having a unique device identification. When the reader 78 next interacts with system 50, the usage data is transmitted to a magazine usage service 74, but no unique device identification is transmitted with the usage data.

The Examiner suggests that paragraphs [0109]-[0110] of McCurdy disclose reading a recorded unique device identification and paragraphs [0111]-[0112] of McCurdy disclose searching an index for an enduring unique device identification matching a recorded unique device identification. Paragraph [0109] discloses security measures such as passwords and other means to identify an individual user, but does not disclose identifying the device itself or reading a recorded unique device identification. Furthermore, nothing in McCurdy discloses searching an index for an enduring unique device identification matching a recorded unique device identification. Additionally, McCurdy discloses no structure configured to record or read unique device identifications.

In contrast, Applicants' independent claims 1 and 15 include the limitations, reading a recorded unique device identification and searching an index for an enduring unique device identification matching the recorded unique device identification. Applicants' independent claim 8 includes the limitation, an input record having a recorded unique device identification; a record-reader configured to read the recorded unique device identification; an index having at least one enduring record, each enduring record having an enduring unique device identification; and an inspector configured to search the index for one of the

enduring unique device identifications matching the recorded unique device identification.

In view of Applicants' arguments with respect to independent claims 1, 8, and 15 being allowable, Applicants respectfully submit that the remaining dependent claims are also allowable because they contain all of the limitations of their respective independent claims and further add structural and functional limitations.

Applicants' additionally reserve the right to swear back of the McCurdy reference.

The foregoing arguments are believed to be a complete response to the most recent Examiner's Action.

No new matter has been added.

It is respectfully submitted that there is no claim, teaching, motivation, or suggestion in any of the prior art cited, alone or in combination, to produce what Applicants claims.

It is further submitted that the application defines patentable subject matter and that the claims are in a condition for allowance. Such allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

Should any issues remain which would preclude the prompt disposition of this case, it is requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned practitioner by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,
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